

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/781,504

Examiner

Qutub Ghulamali

Applicant(s)

FUHRMANN ET AL.

Art Unit

2637

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 09/15/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 3.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 15 September 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted..
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is responsive to the Amendment filed by the applicant (s) on 09/15/2004.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Aaron Waxler on 01/04/2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1, line 1, "(1)" has been deleted.

line 2, "(2)" has been deleted.

line 5, "(4)" has been deleted.

line 5, after "message" --;-- has been inserted.

line 6, "(8)" has been deleted.

line 8, "(9)," has been deleted.

line 9, after "(KT)" --;-- has been inserted.

line 10, "(10)" has been deleted.

line 12, after LT “,” has been deleted.

line 13, “(5)” has been replaced by --further--.

line 14, “(7),” has been deleted.

line 16, “(,)” after threshold, has been deleted.

line 16, “(7)” has been deleted.

line 17, “(12)” has been deleted.

line 18, “(13),” has been deleted.

line 19, “(,)” after occurs, has been deleted.

line 20, “(7)” has been deleted.

Claim 3, line 3, “(14)” has been deleted.

line 5, “(,)” after threshold, has been deleted.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1 and 3 allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

4. The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance:

5. With reference to claim 1, the prior art of record, considered as a whole, neither teaches nor suggest the overall combination of a communications network comprising: a plurality of network nodes each node including a synchronization circuit for generating a global clock signal from a local clock signal (LT) formed by a clock generator in dependence on a time of reception of a message; a divider arrangement included in the synchronization circuit for dividing the local

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clock signal in dependence on at least one divider factor produced by a scaler arrangement and a correction term (KT); and a comparator circuit for forming the correction term by comparing the time of reception of a message and of the local clock signal LT wherein the synchronization circuit comprises a divider control which is provided for changing at least one divider factor when the correction term (KT) exceeds a predefined first threshold and wherein the divider control includes a control unit which is provided for applying a control signal to a divider factor generator for changing the divider factors when the control signal occurs, included in the divider control when the correction term exceeds the predefined first threshold.

Such limitations, as recited in claim 1, is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by the prior art of record.

Claim 3 is allowed by virtue of its dependency to claim highlighted above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee.

Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Qutub Ghulamali whose telephone number is (571) 272-3014.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00AM - 5:00PM.

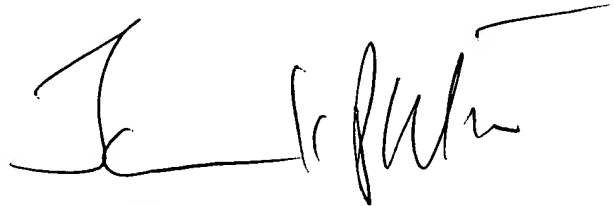
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jay Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2988. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

QG.

January 4, 2005.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jayanti Patel', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

JAYANTI PATEL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER